

XQ8H09
Statement of Work for Student Services Contract
Gulf Ecology Division - Ecosystem Assessments
Gulf Breeze, FL

1. Project Description:

The Gulf Ecology Division (GED) of the National Health and Environmental Research Laboratory is responsible for research on the physical, chemical, and biological dynamics of coastal wetlands and estuaries, to determine ecological condition, evaluate rates and causes of declining systems, and predict future conditions under various alternative water quality scenarios. The student contractor will assist the Coastal Assessment Team and the Ecosystem Assessment Branch of GED in developing (1) diagnostic models for coastal ecosystems, (2) quantitative species-habitat relationships, and (3) biological indicators of ecosystem health.

2. Description of Student Services:

In support of the research goals described above, the student contractor will assist scientists in: (1) gathering data from laboratory and field measurements of physical, chemical and biological properties of coastal waters, (2) conducting literature searches, (3) analyzing, summarizing, and reporting data and technical information, (4) maintenance and calibration of scientific instruments and equipment, and (5) planning experiments and sampling procedures. The student will be required to follow established quality assurance and safety procedures in the performance of these duties.

3. Required Expertise, Skills, Education and/or Experience:

The student must have completed B.S. degree in biology, ecology, environmental science during the past year or be a graduate student in a relevant area of study at an accredited college/university. The student must have experience in field and laboratory work relevant to research on coastal ecosystems. Additional qualifications include ability to complete projects with a moderate degree of supervision and familiarity with scientific literature regarding coastal ecology.

4. Required Background Investigation and Suitability Determination:

Students under this contract are required to undergo a background check and check of FBI fingerprint files and a suitability determination by the Environmental Protection Agency. Students awarded a contract will have to complete a Standard Form 85 (SF-85) "Questionnaire for Non-Sensitive Positions" and SF-87 "Fingerprint Charts" (Attached to this Order). All completed forms will be submitted to the ORD, Mentor (insert mentor's name, address, and telephone number) at least 14 business days prior to reporting to work. . Fingerprints will either be taken at the ORD duty station (upon reporting for work) or students will be notified to have their fingerprints taken at their local police department. If a background check reveals information to indicate the student represents a risk to the interests of EPA and the national security, the contract may be terminated.

5. Description of Working Conditions:

Work will be performed in laboratories, small boats, and offices. The student contractor will be required to wear safety apparel when performing laboratory work, and to closely observe safety requirements. Safety training will be provided by GED. Outdoor work may involve exposure to heat, cold, rain, wind, strong sunlight, and turbulent water.

6. Compensation:

This work is to begin approximately on October 1, 2003 and end approximately September 30, 2005. The initial contract will be for one year with an option for an additional 12 months. It is anticipated that the student will work 20 hours per week during the Fall and Winter seasons and 40 hours per week during the Summer. The rate of compensation for this position is \$13.24 per hour which includes the cost of self-employment taxes for social security and Medicare..

7. Taxes:

The student is responsible for paying all Federal, State or local income taxes required as a result of income received under this order.